

Infiltration of Lankan Refugees

1922. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the number of Sri Lankan refugees estimated to have crossed into the country following the escalation of militancy in Sri Lanka; and
- (b) what measures have been taken by the Government to check the infiltration of Sri Lankan refugees into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Due to recent escalation of militancy in Sri Lanka, about 1350 Sri Lankan refugees have arrived in India since January, 2000; and

(b) The State Government of Tamil Nadu and the Central agencies in Tamil Nadu have been suitably advised to take all possible measures which include intensifying coastal patrolling, collection and collation of advance intelligence and strengthening of naval detachments in Tamil Nadu.

Prosecution Machinery in Assam

1923. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported observation of the Chairman of the Police Reforms Committee to the effect that prosecution machinery in Assam is very poor and that it should be immediately strengthened; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard to tackle the problem of insurgency and terrorism in the North-Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) and (b) Facts are being ascertained, and will be laid on the Table of the House.